Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 EC BRU 01411 151931 Z

67
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-11 EA-11 NEA-10 RSC-01 IO-12 AID-20

CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-09 NSAE-00

CIEP-02 STR-08 TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 SAL-01 OMB-01

ADP-00 OIC-04 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03

PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 RSR-01 /203 W
---------- 064256
R 151730 Z MAR 73
FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4879
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS UNN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY SAIGON
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE EC BRUSSELS 1411

E. O. 11652: N/ A
TAGS: ELAB, ICFTU, US, EIND, ILO, CA, XA
SUBJECT: WCL CONFEDERAL BOARD MEETING, MARCH 5-9

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. JEAN BRUCK, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE WORLD CONFEDERATION OF LABOR (WCL), INFORMED THE MISSION LABOR ATTACHI OF THE KEY DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE WCL CONFEDERAL BOARD AT ITS MEETING IN OVERIJSE, BELGIUM, MARCH 5-9. DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THIS MEETING ARE BEING TRANSMITTED SEPARATELY. END SUMMARY.

2. DELEGATION TO NEAR EAST, SOUTH ASIA, AND SOUTHEAST ASIA. THE BOARD APPROVED THE DISPATCH OF A DELEGATION APRIL 8 - MAY 4 WHICH WILL VISIT IRAN, PAKISTAN, INDIA, BANGLADESH, SINGAPORE (FOR THE CONGRESS OF THE WCL BROTHERHOOD OF ASIAN WORKERS), INDONESIA AND SOUTH VIETNAM (MAY 1). CONCERNING VIETNAM, THE BOARD PRAISED THE VIETNAMESE CONFEDERATION OF WORKERS (CVT) FOR ITS COURAGE IN SUPPORT OF FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY. (BRUCK SAID THAT THE ICFTU HAD INFORMED HIM " AFTER THE FACT" THAT IT WAS SENDING A REPRESEN-TATIVE TO VIETNAM BUT DID NOT ASK THE WCL FOR JOINT ACTION. HE DENIED VEHEMENTLY ANY RUMORS OF POSSIBLE CVT DISAFFILIATION AND ALSO UNDERLAINED THE FACT THAT THE FRENCH CFDT WILL BE PAR-TICIPATING IN THE DELEGATION WHICH IS TO VISIT VIETNAM.) (THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS BEING REPEATED TO THE OTHER POSTS CON-CERNED BY SEPTEL.)

3. TRADE UNION SITUATION IN CANADA. THE BOARD WAS CONSIDERABLY EXERCISED OVER THE IMPRISONMENT OF THREE CANADIAN TRADE UNION LEADERS, INCLUDING MARCEL PEPIN, PRESIDENT OF THE CANADIAN CONFEDERATION OF NATIONAL TRADE UNIONS (CNTU) WHO IS ALSO A VICE PRESIDENT OF THE WCL. IT SAID IT WAS " SERIOUSLY WORRIED ABOUT THIS FLAGRANT ATTACK ON TRADE UNION FREEDOM AND ON THE MOST ELEMENTARY RIGHTS IN A ' DEMOCRATIC COUNTRY'." THE BOARD ALSO CRITICIZED A LAW PROPOSED BY THE QUEBEC GOVERNMENT WHICH WOULD " RESTRICT TO A VERY MINIMUM" THE RIGHT TO STRIKE IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE. CLAUDE GIRARD, A MEMBER OF THE CNTU EXECUTIVE BOARD, REPRESENTED HIS ORGANIZATION AT THE MEETING. (BRUCK SAID HE WAS SEEKING ICFTU SUPPORT AGAINST THESE ACTIONS IN CANADA. HE ALLEGED, HOWEVER, THAT THE ICFTU, UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF CANADIAN LABOR CONGRESS (CLC) LEADER DONALD MACDONALD (WHO IS ALSO
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PRESIDENT OF THE ICFTU), HAD ACTED WEAKLY AND BELATEDLY IN THE MATTER.)

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

4. APARTHEID. THE BOARD COMMEMORATED THE APPROACH OF THE 13 TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SHARPEVILLE MASSACRES IN SOUTH AFRICA AND EXPRESSED " ITS SYMPATHY AND SUPPORT FOR THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS NOT ONLY IN SOUTH AFRICA, BUT ALSO IN NAMIBIA, RHODESIA AND THE PORTUGUESE COLONIES OF ANGOLA, MOZAMBIQUE AND GUINEA BISSAO." THE BOARD ALSO EXPRESSED ITS PLEASURE THAT AN ILO- SPONSORED WORLD CONFERENCE ON APARTHEID IS BEING HELD IN GENEVA IN JUNE 1973.

5. CUT CONFERENCE ON MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES. BRUCK SAID THAT THE WCL WILL PARTICIPATE IN A CONFERENCE ON MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES SPONSORED BY THE CHILEAN TRADE UNION CENTER (CUT) IN APRIL. HE STATED THAT THE WCL' S CANADIAN AFFILIATE, THE CNTU, WILL ALSO PARTICIPATE. BRUCK BASED THE WCL AGREEMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CONFERENCE ON THE FACT THAT IT WAS CALLED BY THE CHILEAN TRADE UNION MOVEMENT, A SEGMENT OF WHOSE MEMBERSHIP ARE CHRISTIAN TRADE UNIONISTS. (THE ICFTU HAS DECLINED TO PARTICIPATE.)

6. PAN AFRICAN LABOR ORGANIZATION. THE BOARD APPROVED WCL' S POLICY REGARDING THE FORTHCOMING OAU- SPONSORED PAN- AFRICAN LABOR CONFERENCE. BRUCK SAID THAT THE WCL, LIKE THE ICFTU, IS ABSOLUTELY OPPOSED TO ANY REQUIREMENT THAT AFFILIATES OF ANY NEW PAN- AFRICAN TRADE UNION ORGANIZATION THAT MAY BE SET UP MUST DISAFFILIATE FROM SUCH ORGANIZATIONS AS THE ICFTU AND THE WCL TO WHICH THEY ARE CURRENTLY AFFILIATED. BRUCK SAID THAT THE WCL' S AFRICAN AFFILIATES ARE OPPOSED TO ANY FORCED UNIFICATION OF TRADE UNION MOVEMENTS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES. BRUCK ALLEGED THAT HAD THE ICFTU GIVEN MORE SUPPORT TO THE AFRICAN TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION (ATUC), THE CURRENT THREAT (TO THE WCL AND THE ICFTU) POSED BY THE PAN- AFRICAN CONFERENCE WOULD NOT HAVE EXISTED.

7. RELATIONS WITH THE ICFTU. THE BOARD APPROVED THE HOLDING OF A SECOND HIGH LEVEL MEETING WITH THE ICFTU LEADERSHIP IN GENEVA, JUNE 19. THE MEETING WILL TAKE UP QUESTIONS INVOLVING AFRICA, ASIA, EUROPE AND THE ILO. (BRUCK SAID THAT THE QUESTION OF A WCL/ ICFTU MERGER IS STILL FAR OFF, " PERHAPS FIVE TO TEN YEARS AWAY." THE BOARD HAS ALSO DISCUSSED A WCL STRATEGY WITH REGARD
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

TO THE NEW EUROPEAN TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION (ETUC) BUT BRUCK WOULD NOT ELABORATE ON WHAT WAS SAID.)

8. OTHER ACTIONS. THE BOARD ALSO TOOK POSITIONS ON MIGRANT WORKERS, MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES, AND THE WORLD MONETARY CRISIS (THESE ISSUES WILL BE REPORTED MORE FULLY BY AIRGRAM). IN ADDITION, THE WCL BOARD DISCUSSED PREPARATIONS FOR ITS 18 TH WORLD CONGRESS AT EVIAN, FRANCE, IN SEPTEMBER 1973. IT APPROVED THE

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

HOLDING OF A TRADE UNION CONFERENCE ON DEVELOPMENT (GENEVA,
SEPTEMBER 10-23) AND A CONFERENCE ON MIGRANT WORKERS (FOR WHICH
NO DATE HAS BEEN SET).
DECONTROL AFTER MARCH 15, 1974.
GREENWALD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973ECBRU01411
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: EC BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730329/aaaahupm.tel
Line Count: 178
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30-Jul-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <06-Sep-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971204
Subject: WCL CONFEDERAL BOARD MEETING, MARCH 5-9
TAGS: EIND, ELAB, CA, US, XA, ICFTU, ILO
To: ADDIS ABABA
BONN
BRUSSELS
COPENHAGEN
DUBLIN
EUR
LAGOS

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

SECSTATE WASHDC
THE HAGUE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005